

JAN 14 2001

TECH CENTER # 600/2900
Customer No. 88-856

Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 7414.0034-00



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Freudenthal et al.

Application No.: 09/977,225

Filed: October 16, 2001

For: SYSTEM FOR FILLING
SUBSTRATE CHAMBERS WITH
LIQUID

) Group Art Unit: 1632

) Examiner: Not yet assigned

Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents, including copending patent applications, are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed

FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

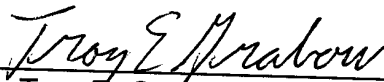
If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 8, 2002

By:



Troy E. Grabow
Reg. No. 43,440

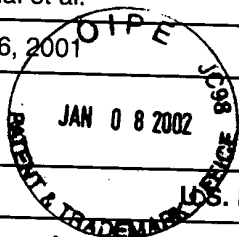
FINNEGAN
HENDERSON
FARABOW
GARRETT &
DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005
202.408.4000
Fax 202.408.4400
www.finnegan.com

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

RECEIVED

Atty. Docket No. 7414.0034-00	Serial No. 09/977,225	JAN 14 2001
Applicant Freudenthal et al.		
Filing Date October 16, 2001	Group: 1632	TECH CENTER 1600/2900



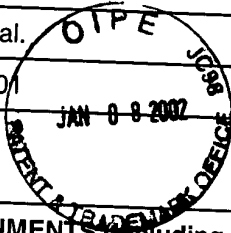
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initial*		Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
		3,080,759	3/12/63	McQuaid			
		3,933,165	1/20/76	Budzak et al.			
		4,948,564	8/14/90	Root et al.			
		5,210,015	5/11/93	Gelfand et al.			
		5,538,848	7/23/96	Livak et al.			
		5,780,717	7/14/98	Wise et al.			
		5,928,907	7/27/99	Woudenberg et al.			
		6,015,674	1/18/00	Woudenberg et al.			
		6,159,368	12/12/00	Moring et al.			
		6,272,939 B1	8/14/01	Frye et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
		WO 91/17239	11/14/91	PCT			
		WO 97/36681	10/9/97	PCT			
		EP 0 895 240 A1	2/3/99	Europe			
		DE 197 39 119 A1	3/11/99	Germany			
		EP 0 955 097 A1	11/10/99	Europe			
		EP 1 088 590 A1	4/5/01	Europe			
		WO 01/28684 A2	4/26/01	PCT			

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)	
	U. Landegren et al., "A Ligase-Mediated Gene Detection Technique," <i>Science</i> , 241:1077-80 (Aug. 1988)
	D. Nickerson et al., "Automated DNA diagnostics using an ELISA-based oligonucleotide ligation assay," <i>Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci USA</i> , 87:8923-27 (Nov. 1990)
	P. Grossman et al., "High-density multiplex detection of nucleic acid sequences: oligonucleotide ligation assay and sequence-coded separation," <i>Nucl. Acids Res.</i> , 22:4527-34 (1994)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

Atty. Docket No.	7414.0034-00	Serial No.	09/977,225
Applicant	Freudenthal et al.		
Filing Date	October 16, 2001	Group:	1632



OTHER DOCUMENTS (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	Co-pending Application No. 09/496,408 Inventors: Hon Shin et al. Filed: February 2, 2000 Title: Apparatus and method for ejecting sample well trays Attorney Docket No. 7414.0018-00
	Co-pending Application No. 09/848,270 Inventors: Frye et al. Filed: May 4, 2001 Title: System and method for filling a substrate with a liquid sample Attorney Docket No. 7414.0011-01
	Co-pending Application No. 09/897,500 Inventors: Bordenkircher et al. Filed: July 3, 2001 Title: PCR sample handling device Attorney Docket No. 7414.0013-00
	Co-pending Application No. 09/606,006 Inventors: Barzilai et al. Filed: June 29, 2000 Title: Apparatus and method for transporting sample well trays Attorney Docket No. 7414.0009-00

Examiner	Date Considered
<p>*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p>	
Form PTO 1449	
Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce	